

THE BESSIES AWARDS ANNOUNCE 2012-2013 NOMINEES

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By Leigh Ross

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THIRD ANNUAL JURIED BESSIE AWARD AND OUTSTANDING EMERGING CHOREOGRAPHER AWARD
PRESENTED AT PRESS CONFERENCE

NEW YORK, July 17, 2013 – [The New York Dance and Performance Awards \(The Bessies\)](#), NYC's premier dance awards honoring outstanding creative work in the field, announced today the 40 nominees for the 2012-13 season. Announced at a press conference by members of The Bessies Selection Committee, the nominations (listed below) were made by an independent committee of 38 dance industry professionals. Produced in partnership with Dance/NYC, Bessie Award categories include Outstanding Production, Outstanding Performer, Outstanding Visual Design, Outstanding Composition or Sound Design and Outstanding Revived Work.

The 29th Annual Bessie Awards, termed by The New York Times as "the dance world's version of the Academy Awards," will take place on Monday, October 7, 2013 at 8:00pm at the legendary Apollo Theater in New York City. The 2013 ceremony will mark The Bessie Awards' third year at the Apollo Theater.

Two 2013 awards were also presented at the press conference. Darrell Jones was named the recipient of the Juried Bessie Award. Acclaimed choreographers Ishmael Houston-Jones, Eiko Otake and Jason Samuels Smith selected choreographer Darrell Jones, who exhibits some of the most interesting and exciting ideas happening in dance in New York City today.

The Outstanding Emerging Choreographer Award was presented to Joanna Kotze for her work *It Happened It Had Happened It Is Happening It Will Happen*, presented at Danspace Project.

"Darrell and Joanna are two fascinating young choreographers, and we're thrilled to honor them with these awards," said Bessies Director Lucy Sexton. "The full slate of nominees gives a glimpse of the extraordinary breadth of dance work that is happening in the city. We are honored to be recognizing all of the nominated artists."

The 2013 Bessie Awards Steering Committee, responsible for setting policy and providing oversight of the Bessie Awards throughout the year, is comprised of Cora Cahan, Beverly D'Anne, Lane Harwell, Judy Hussie-Taylor, Carla Peterson, Laurie Uprichard, Martin Wechsler and Reggie Wilson.

The 2012-2013 Bessie Award Nominating Committee consists of Nolini Barretto, Barbara Bryan, Kim Chan, H.T. Chen, Blondell Cummings, Nancy Dalva, Andrew Dinwiddie, Maura Donohue, Joan Finkelstein, Stephen Greco, Marina Harss, Zhenesse Heinemann, Virginia Johnson, Fatima Kafele, Robert LaFosse, Caridad Martinez, Sarah Maxfield, Ryutaro Mishima, Harold Norris, Nicky Paraiso, Morgan von prelle Pecelli, Rokafella, Walter Rutledge, Philip Sandstrom, Yoko Shioya, Elka Samuels Smith, Sue Samuels, Gus Solomons Jr., Sally Sommer, Ivan Sygoda, Muna Tseng, Kay Turner, Jay Wegman, Adrienne Westwood, Susan Yung, Elizabeth Zimmer and Salley May.

[Outstanding Performer](#)

[Outstanding Emerging Choreographer](#)

[Outstanding Musical Composition/Sound Design](#)

[Outstanding Visual Design](#)

[Outstanding Revived Work](#)

[Outstanding Production - Performed in Large Capacity Venue](#)

[Outstanding Production - Performed in a Small Capacity Venue](#)

[Outstanding Production - Of a Work Stretching the Boundaries of a Traditional Form](#)

[Outstanding Production - Of a Work at the Forefront of Contemporary Dance and Performance Practices](#)

[Outstanding Performer](#)

Shantala Shivalingappa in *Shiva Ganga*

Choreographed by Shantala Shivalingappa

Fall for Dance, City Center

Herman Cornejo

American Ballet Theatre

Works by Mark Morris, Twyla Tharp and Alexei Ratmansky

City Center and the Metropolitan Opera House

Aaron Mattocks

Works by David Gordon, Stephen Petronio, Jodi Melnick, Christopher Williams, Faye Driscoll, John Kelly, Dean Moss, Doug Elkins and more

Anniqe Roberts

Evidence Dance Company
Works by Ronald K. Brown

Charles "Lil Buck" Riley and Ron "Prime Tyme" Myles
Le Poisson Rouge

Kayo Seyama in *BELL*
Choreographed by Yasuko Yokoshi
New York Live Arts

David Wampach and Tamar Shelef in *SACRE*
Choreographed by David Wampach
The Invisible Dog Art Center as part of Performance Space 122's COIL Festival
Jennifer Monson in *Live Dancing Archive*
Choreographed by Jennifer Monson
The Kitchen

Melissa Toogood in *Interface*, Choreographed by Rashaun Mitchell at Baryshnikov Arts Center and *The Spectators*, Choreographed by Pam Tanowitz at New York Live Arts

Sebastien Ramirez and Honji Wang in *AP15*
Choreographed by Sebastien Ramirez and Honji Wang
The Apollo Theater, Breakin' Convention

Hari Krishnan in *The Frog Princess*
Choreographed by Hari Krishnan
La MaMa, La MaMa Moves! Dance Festival

Jaro Vinliarský in *Bastard (The Painted Bird Trilogy Cycle part I)*
Choreographed by Pavel Zuštiak
La MaMa Moves! Dance Festival

Outstanding Emerging Choreographer

Justin Peck for *Year of the Rabbit*
New York City Ballet

Molly Lieber and Eleanor Smith for *Tulip Roulette*

Ephrat Asherie for *A Single Ride*
Dixon Place

Joanna Kotze for *It Happened It Had Happened It Is Happening It Will Happen*
Danspace Project

Outstanding Musical Composition/Sound Design

Omar Sosa for *Miriam*
Choreographed by Nora Chipaumire
BAM's Fishman Space

Marty Beller for *A Single Ride*
Choreographed by Ephrat Asherie

Ant Hampton and Tim Etchells for *The Quiet Volume*
Created by Ant Hampton and Tim Etchells
Performance Space 122 and PEN World Voices Festival

Liam O Maonlai for *Rian*,
Choreographed by Michael Keegan-Dolan of Fabulous Beast Dance Theatre
Lincoln Center, White Light Festival

Outstanding Visual Design

Suzanne Bocanegra, costume design for *Ich, Kurbisgeist*
by Big Dance Theater at The Chocolate Factory

Pontus Lidberg, set and media design for *Within (Labyrinth Within)*
by Morphoses at The Joyce

Fleur Elise Noble, visual design with media for *Two Dimension Life of Her*
by Fleur Elise Noble at Under the Radar Festival, The Public Theater

Akiko Iwasaki, costume design for *BELL*
by Yasuko Yokoshi at New York Live Arts

Outstanding Revived Work

Dionysus in 69
Rude Mechs from a work by The Performance Group
New York Live Arts

State of Heads
Choreographed by Donna Uchizono
New York Live Arts

Scott, Queen of Marys
Choreographed by Doug Elkins
Baryshnikov Arts Center

D-Man in the Waters
Choreographed by Bill T. Jones
The Joyce

Outstanding Production
(performed in a large capacity venue of more than 400 seats)

Rian, Fabulous Beast Dance Theatre
Choreographed by Michael Keegan-Dolan
Lincoln Center, White Light Festival

Shostakovich Trilogy, American Ballet Theatre
Choreographed by Alexei Ratmansky
Metropolitan Opera House

The Legend of Apsara Mera, Royal Ballet of Cambodia
BAM's Howard Gilman Opera House

Outstanding Production
(performed in a small capacity venue of less than 400 seats)

Then She Fell
Created and choreographed by Third Rail Projects
Kingsland Ward at St. Johns

Everything You See
Choreographed by Vicky Shick
Danspace Project

The Painted Bird Trilogy Cycle
Choreographed by Pavel Zuštiak and Palissimo
La MaMa, La MaMa Moves! Dance Festival

Outstanding Production
(of a work stretching the boundaries of a traditional form)

Paseo
Choreographed by Joanna Haigood
Dancing in the Streets and Casita Maria Center for Arts & Education

red, black, & GREEN: a blues
Choreographed by Marc Bamuthi Joseph
BAM's Fishman Space

Mo(or)town/Redux
Choreographed by Doug Elkins
Baryshnikov Arts Center

Outstanding Production
(of a work at the forefront of contemporary dance and performance practices)

Watch It
Choreographed by Liz Santoro
Museum of Arts and Design

The People to Come
Choreographed by Yanira Castro
The Invisible Dog Art Center

Organ Player
Created by Narcissister
Abrons Arts Center

ABOUT THE BESSIES

Produced in partnership with Dance/NYC, the NY Dance and Performance Awards have saluted outstanding and groundbreaking creative work by independent dance artists in NYC for 29 years. Known as "The Bessie" in honor of revered dance teacher Bessie Schoenberg, the awards were established in 1983 by David White at Dance Theater Workshop. They recognize exceptional work in choreography, performance, music composition and visual design. A 40-member Selection Committee comprised of artists, presenters, producers, and writers choose nominees. All those working in the dance field are invited to join the NY Dance and Performance League—members participate in annual discussions on the direction of the awards and nominate members to serve on the Selection Committee.

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